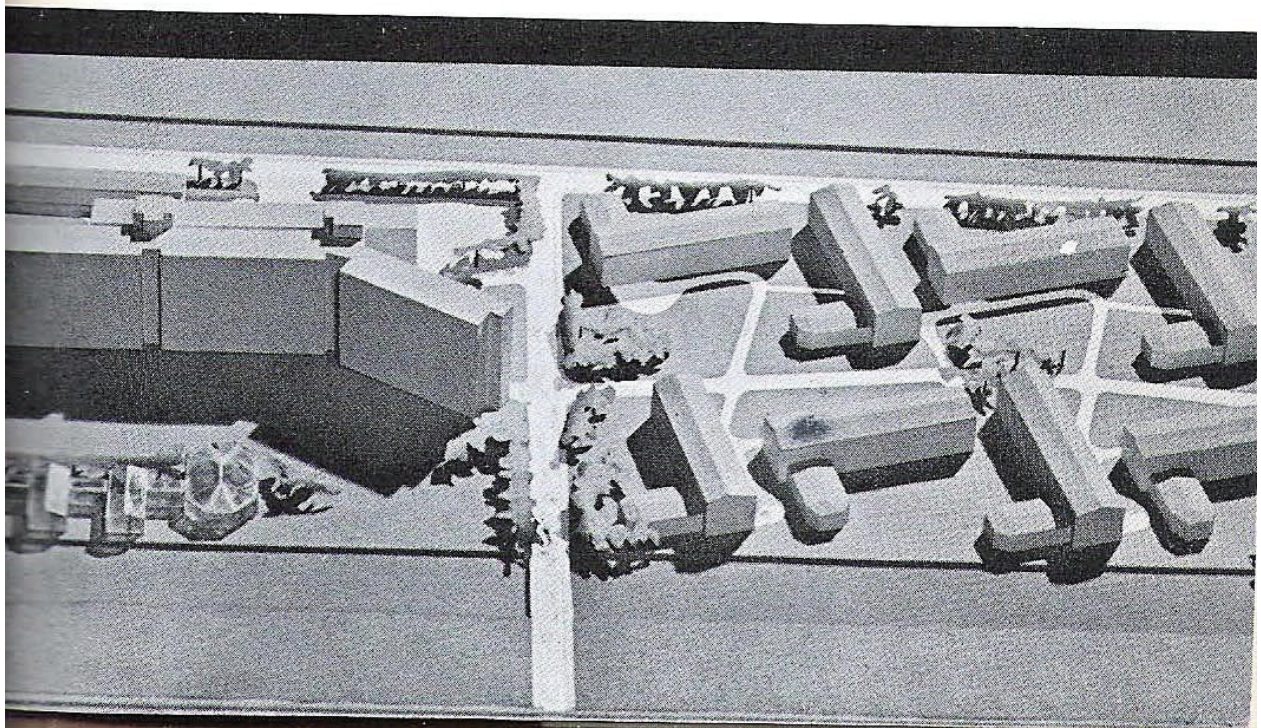


# STUDY IN HOLLAND

*Guide for Prospective Students*





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*A Guide for Prospective Students*

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## I. THE TIMES, THE SCHOOLS AND THE STUDENTS

### An auspicious beginning

In the romantic days of the great medieval universities of France and Spain, Holland was still a remote corner of Europe. There was learning in its monasteries and convents, but there were no universities.

In the sixteenth century the spread of the Renaissance and Humanism encompassed The Netherlands. Erasmus, "the light of the world," was a citizen of Rotterdam. It was in his spirit that the setting was prepared for Dutch higher education—a setting of free thought and free speech.

The first university in The Netherlands was founded in the town of Leyden in 1574. The Dutch fight for independence from Spanish rule had been going on for some years. Leyden, after withstanding a protracted Spanish siege, received the university charter as its reward. Holland's oldest university thus became linked to the successful struggle against what was then the most tyrannical power of the West.

This symbolism has been kept alive. Only seven years later, in 1581, the magistrates of Leyden refused to comply with an order to act as censors over the printing of books. In the remonstrance issued on that occasion, they stated: "Reason, which is the adversary of all tyrants, teaches us that truth can be as little restrained as light . . ." Ever since those days Holland has held open house for scholars from everywhere in Europe who could not find academic freedom at home; and when in recent years Holland suffered enemy occupation, the universities were in the forefront of the resistance against the oppression of liberty.

The second university was opened in the north, at Groningen, in 1614. The country was at a peak of political and economic power in those days, and a third university followed, at Utrecht, in 1638. In 1632 the capital, Amsterdam, received its "Athenaeum." Others came afterward, and modern Holland has six universities proper, plus a large number of specialized schools and institutions of higher learning.

### Foreigners and Dutchmen

From their earliest days, Dutch universities attracted a considerable number of foreign students and foreign professors. In the newly emerging economic pattern of the seventeenth century, Holland was at the crossroads of trade and thus of culture. Learning flourished in the atmosphere of freedom. Those same years, however, saw a strengthening of nationalism all over Europe. The academic world slowly lost its universal flavor. In the changed atmosphere of the eighteenth century, the appeal of the universities of a small country to the

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foreign student began to diminish. Only a magic name like that of the famous physicist Boerhaave of Leyden University could still draw them in numbers. And when, in the course of the nineteenth century, Latin was dropped as the professorial language at the universities of Western Europe and replaced by the vernacular, the number of foreign students receded still further. Dutch universities maintained their excellent name, and their degrees continued to be widely recognized. But the language barrier now kept away many students from abroad.

### Modern Times

It was in those same years that the Dutch institutions of learning began a period of growth and improvement. In 1850 there were a thousand university students in Holland, in 1950 there were twenty-eight thousand. Quality did not trail quantity: there was an equally impressive expansion of facilities. After the Second World War the yearly government expenditure on university education reached the 25 million guilder mark in 1948, a hundred times as much as a century earlier.

Per student, an average amount of a thousand guilders was spent or about three times as much as was paid in by each individual in tuition. The universities were prepared to produce an ever increasing number of scholars of high standing.

### Students on the move

After 1945 the academic world-at-large embarked on a new era of collaboration and exchange. The United Nations and its agencies began to help students and professors in overcoming the barriers of distance, insufficient contacts, soft currency, or just plain lack of money. On a national level, governments and private institutions made a vital contribution to this development.

Thus in 1958 there were, for instance, more foreign students at work in the United States than ever before (58,000) while more Americans went to study in Europe and Asia. An international orientation, once the privilege of the very rich, is now within the reach of every serious student.

### New influx

This development has not passed Holland by. The old problem of language could no longer keep foreign students away, and in 1958 UNESCO counted 1400 of them in Holland. Of these, 180 were from the United States. According to the Dutch Ministry of Education the total number in that year was even higher, about 3000, which included those studying but not actually registered with a university. What these students found in Holland was primarily, a very high academic standard which could stand comparison with any other in Europe or America, and little provincialism. In Dutch universities, one could truly have "a window on Europe."



One of the results of William the Silent's struggle to secure spiritual freedom for every individual was the foundation of Leyden University in 1574. The ideal of broadmindedness had long been upheld by another Dutchman of international reputation . . .





... Erasmus, famous for his philosophy of tolerance. Their spirit was an essential contribution to the integrity of Dutch academic life.

### Destination Holland

Aside from this main inducement, there were added attractions for the foreign student. A great fund of local knowledge appealed to students who wanted to specialize in certain widely varied fields such as hydraulic engineering, tropical agriculture, mathematics or sinology. High medical standards decided the choice of many Americans who could find no admission in overcrowded medical schools at home. For all, there was the important factor of Holland's low cost of living, one of the lowest in Europe and way below the American scale.



## II. WHAT IT IS LIKE TO STUDY IN HOLLAND

### Freedom to go to the devil

It makes quite a difference whether you go to Holland to study, for example Oriental languages, or, say, dentistry. When we come to speak of the individual schools, we will stress the characteristics of each place and type of study. Here we want to see what they have in common.

What distinguishes Dutch and many other European universities from those in the United States is the great amount of responsibility they leave the student. The German philosopher Karl Jaspers once stated that academic freedom for the student should include his "freedom to go to the devil." Although Dutch professors would certainly be as disturbed as their American colleagues if they saw such a thing actually happening, the chance is there for those who want it!

A Dutch boy or girl becomes a university student at the age of 17 or 18. He then has behind him a secondary school education for which he usually had to work hard, and he is on a level comparable with an American who is a junior in college, or even with a senior. The *gymnasium* or *lyceum*, 6 years of secondary schools, serve those who want a liberal arts education; the higher institutions are for those who continue studying for a professional career. A student's entrance into a university marks his coming of age. It is a privilege that he can go on studying, and it is not supposed that he would do such a thing against his own will. It is completely up to him then to make a success or a failure of it, and no one is going to tell him what he should or should not do. He goes to classes as he pleases, and he applies for admission to an examination when he feels ready for it. Such an examination is usually held for him only, sometimes at the home of the professor. He will pass it if he knows the material, and his examiner will not be interested in finding out how and when he acquired that knowledge.

There are no attendance records, no course credits or honors. In most fields of study there is a wide variety of subjects the student can choose from. Your own interest in what you have chosen to be your life's work must keep you going, not the watchful eye of a professor. One of the merits of this system is that not only do you learn about your own particular subjects but, more important, you learn how to learn. At the same time it places a heavy responsibility on the shoulders of the new students.

In the technical branches, modern developments have necessitated a considerable modification of this idea. The field of modern medicine for instance is so vast, and there are so many freshmen arriving each year, that this platonic aloofness is not possible. Here a definite schedule of courses, laboratory and clinical work has been drawn up for each stage in the study; but even here

it is up to you to attend or not. You are the sole judge of your own progress.

Once you have found your way around—and there are many people ready and prepared to help foreign students in doing this\*—you may discover a great exhilaration in this high degree of personal freedom.

### No campus

Dutch universities have no campus. Often the university buildings are scattered all over town. Nor are there dormitories; a student rents a room somewhere in town. He will prefer to do so even if his parents live in the place where the university of his choice is located, and only lack of funds will keep him at his parents' home while attending it.

In a smaller town like Leyden, the university puts a strong stamp on the town's life. The arrival of the students in autumn is like that of the summer tourists at a bathing resort. They are expected; and everywhere you see signs in the windows of private houses saying *Cubicula Locanda*, or more practically, *Rooms for Rent*. In a city like Amsterdam their arrival creates a less visible stir, but here too there is a very definite market of students' rooms. The postwar housing shortage has led to the creation of some "student villages," but these are not typical.

### The student life

The university or institute leaves the student alone. It tries to make his education as broad as possible, for instance by offering the science student some classes in the humanities which are especially geared to his needs. But it is not concerned with his personality. While an American college might have very much in mind the task of making its students happy and well-adjusted citizens, Dutch institutions keep away from the private lives of the students. It would be wrong, however, to assume that the student in Holland leads a lonely life. It is here that the student organizations come into the picture.

Students in Holland are bound together in numerous local organizations, many of which are loosely connected with those in other towns. The oldest of these are the *corpora*.

At every university and at the Institutes of Delft and Rotterdam you find *corps* where old student traditions are most solidly preserved. The Dutch *corpora* might remind you of the legendary German students' clubs, but although there is quite a lot of drinking (mostly beer), there are no duelling or other excesses, and the goings-on are in good taste. There are *corpora* for men and for women.

Next to the *corpora* are the *unitates*, not so very different but with co-ed membership, not quite such a flavor of the "good old days" and financially not a burden to the student. In fact, it was the high cost to the student of the full *corps* life which led to the creation of the *unitates* at the beginning of this century. Thirdly you have the organizations on a religious—Protestant

\*the Foreign Student Service, 5 Oranje-Nassaulaan, Amsterdam.



or Catholic—basis, and the student clubs which bring people together in one field of study or of a certain political opinion.

The *corpora, unitates* and other social organizations are the mainstay of the student's life outside the classroom. Every organization has its own house where the members come together, more like a London club than an American fraternity or sorority. Freshmen apply for membership at the beginning of their studies and have to go through two or three weeks of hazing. After that they are taken in or, rarely, refused. Once in, they are usually invited to join one of the smaller and more intimate clubs within the organization.

It is as member of such an organization that you meet your fellow students, spend much of your free time, talk, do sports, learn a lot about life, and undergo a general change from a schoolboy into a well-behaved adult. In later years you find a real home and real friends in your own "house." All this is a very vital part of Dutch university life and although it has no official connection with his studies, the foreign student should certainly join in.

### Spreekt U Hollands?

If you plan to study in Holland, whether for a year or longer, your answer to this question should be *Ja*; or in plain English, you should learn to speak Dutch. The amount of Dutch you will need varies. Holland is indeed a multi-lingual nation where from pure necessity children learn French, English and German.

A graduate student who goes to The Netherlands for some specialized work will have no trouble discussing it with his colleagues and professors in English. He will need less Dutch than those who are going to attend classes, which are of course all given in Dutch. A working knowledge of that language is essential for everyone who is planning to follow any full course of study. Moreover, some of your textbooks will possibly be in French or German; but most of them will be in English. Because of the limited language area, serious academic works are often not published in Dutch even when the author is a Dutchman.

The Dutch language is akin to English, and usually its study gives English-speaking people not too many headaches. It will moreover teach you something about the evolution of modern English from the medieval variety. The farther you go back in English, the more alike the two languages become.

A knowledge of Dutch is not necessary in order to apply for the various scholarships (they will be mentioned later) but grantees are supposed to start working on it right away. Many universities and institutes now give a special course in Dutch for foreign students at the beginning of the academic year, but you should not go there without some advance preparation of your own.

### Admission

What is necessary to be admitted to a Dutch institution of higher education? It can be stated as a general rule that the student from the United States should have a bachelor's degree to begin with.

The Dutch Ministry of Education decides whether foreign students can be admitted to or even exempted from examinations. For this reason the student must send his complete academic record with two letters of recommendation written by his college or university professors or by the board of his school to the Ministry of Education, The Hague.

His application will be sent for advice to the university or institute he wants to attend, and it will be judged on its individual merits. Advanced standing, or exemption from examinations, is granted depending on his previous schooling. Exception is made for students who intend to study at the Institute of Agriculture at Wageningen. To be admitted there they must apply to the Ministry of Agriculture, The Hague (4, Eerste v.d. Boschstraat).

For aspiring medical students special application blanks have been prepared, which can be obtained from the Ministry of Education at The Hague, the Netherlands Embassy in Washington or the Netherlands Information Service, 111 Third Avenue, New York 17, N. Y. These application forms, when filled out, must be sent directly to the Ministry at The Hague. There has been so much interest among Americans in this study that requirements have been somewhat stiffened of late, as Dutch medical schools have space problems too. It is now required that the prospective student has grades of A or B in chemistry, physics and biology.

If a student only wants to attend certain special lectures and has no intention of taking examinations at a Dutch university, his application for enrollment should be sent directly to the *Rector Magnificus* or the Dean of the university or institute he wants to attend.

### What price study?

The yearly tuition fee at all Dutch universities is 235 guilders (written: Fl. 235), regardless of the number of courses for which you register. There are added small fees for the use of laboratories, and for the taking of each of the main examinations. Tuition is less for auditors, who are not qualified to prepare for an examination. The tuition fee pays for the right to study at any or all of the universities of the country, but if you change schools you of course have to register anew at your new place of study.

When you have paid the yearly fee for four consecutive years in the schools of theology, law, economics, or political and social sciences, you are exempted from all further payments. In other fields exemption is granted after five years of payment. This rule was created to make rushing toward a diploma unnecessary, and to encourage the student to stay on and undertake research. There is a free health service for students, and a general health insurance at Fl. 25 a year covering full medical treatment and hospital charges.

In addition to tuition the student will need funds for books, and if he studies medicine or dentistry, equipment. The amount of money spent on books is to a large degree up to the individual. The universities have very extensive libraries, and there are many second-hand book shops in their neighborhoods. The medical student will need a microscope after some time, and a dentistry student will incur high expenses for equipment and dental gold.



## The facts of living

One of Holland's attractions for the visitor is indeed its low cost of living which is the result of a successful post-war effort to keep both prices and wages down. Especially for the student with dollars, the rate of exchange works very favorably. (A dollar is at the time of writing Fl. 3.80).

The average students' room is simply furnished, with a wash-basin behind a curtain or a shared bathroom, and a coal-stove. Such a room can cost 40 to 75 guilders a month, with perhaps an added 5 guilders in winter for fuel. This includes bedding and cleaning. More elegant places are of course available at higher prices. People who rent to students usually have more than one student-tenant in their place at a time. Holland still has a housing shortage, and a single man or woman is not allowed to rent an unfurnished house or apartment.

It is also possible to get full room and board, and the price for this ranges from Fl. 110 a month up. Many students dislike to be thus bound to fixed hours, and they either prepare their own food in the kitchen of the landlord or in their rooms, or they have their meals out. You will have no trouble in getting the addresses of some good, inexpensive restaurants. In most university towns a foundation called *Mensa Academica* provides students with good meals at about a guilder each.

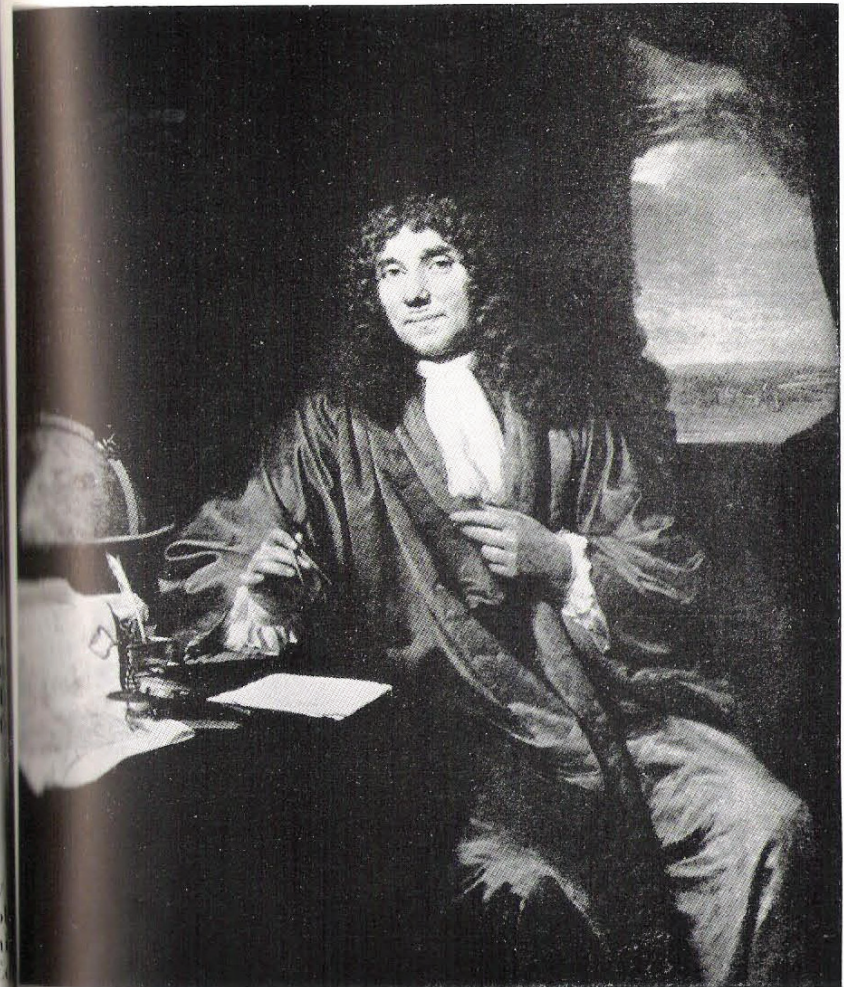
Whatever type of arrangement you make, something like Fl. 200 a month should be sufficient for housing and food. An added hundred guilders should cover all other normal living expenses. Many Dutch students manage on much less, but then it takes time in a foreign country to find one's way, and students from the U.S. in particular might not want to do without conveniences like hot water and steam heat.

Students pay reduced admission prices to many concerts, museums, etc. Students from the U.S. might be interested in the possibility of low-cost transportation to and from Holland by special student ships or chartered planes. Information on this can be obtained at the N.B.B.S. (Netherlands Office for Foreign Student Relations), 29 Broadway, New York 6, N. Y. In Holland the address is 6 Rapenburg, Leyden.

## Scholarships

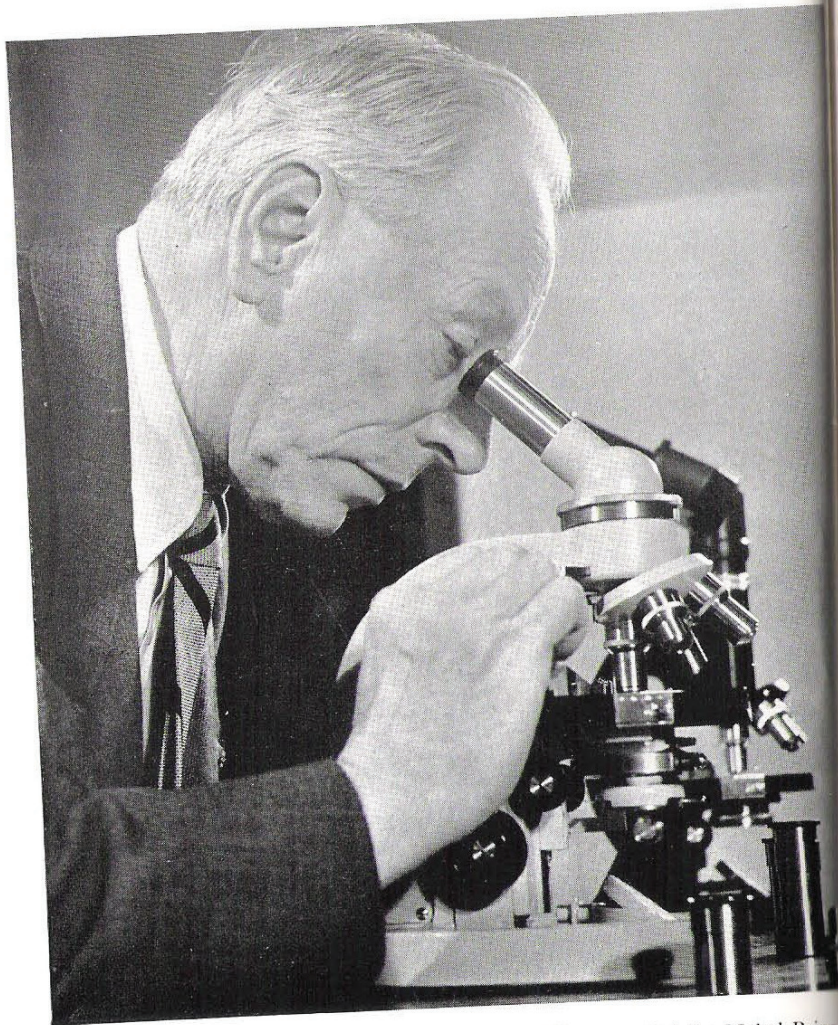
To students from the U.S., Fulbright scholarships are granted for study in Holland. Applications for these are accepted from May through October, one year previous to the time the student wishes to go. These scholarships, which cover all costs, are administered by the Institute of International Education, 1 East 67th Street, New York 21, N. Y. Applications may be sent directly to this Institute (New York or one of the regional offices), or to a Fulbright adviser of your school if it has one.

Other scholarships, available through the Dutch government, are more modest than the Fulbrights, but sufficient for their purpose. Applications for these are handled in the U.S. by the Counselor for Cultural Affairs, Netherlands Embassy, 1470 Euclid Street N.W., Washington, D. C.



Antony van Leeuwenhoek, the inventor of the microscope and the "father of microbiology," opened up new fields of scientific research. About 300 years later another Dutchman . . .





... Professor F. Zernike of Groningen University was awarded the Nobel Prize of 1953 for his far-reaching improvements of the microscope.

### Working your way through

Since the war there has been an increase in the number of Dutch students who depend on part-time jobs for their living. *Kriterion* in Amsterdam, founded in 1945, is the only motion picture theatre in the world run entirely by students. Amsterdam also has a filling station operated by students, a baby-sitting service, and other enterprises. But there are always more applicants than openings for this kind of work, paid assistantships are rare, and a foreign student should definitely not count on this possibility.

Married students should bear in mind that their wives or husbands will as visitors not be permitted to take jobs and earn money, except with foreign firms or diplomatic missions. Only in very special cases is an exception made to this rule. The Fulbright grant is sufficient for a couple to live on if they are prepared to do things modestly.



### III. THE SIX UNIVERSITIES

#### General set-up

The six universities of Holland form a group by themselves. Two of them are in Amsterdam, one municipal and one Christian Reformed (called the Free University); there are state universities in Leyden, Utrecht and Groningen, and there is a Catholic university in Nymegen. The municipal university of Amsterdam has a different administration from the three state universities, but for the students this makes little if any perceptible difference. Examination and degrees throughout the country are uniform and regulated by law. The universities are autonomous in internal affairs.

What sets the universities apart is first that each consists of at least five schools (called *faculteiten*): theology, law, medicine, the humanities, mathematics and the natural sciences. (This is the historical order in which they were created, and in which they are usually listed.) This is one aspect of their character: universality. The other basic principle of their teaching is its academic nature. At the universities, the academic, purely scientific approach to learning is stressed; the practical, application-aspect, comes second. Vocational schools have no place in them.

In all departments there are two examinations. The first is called the *candidaats* examination and it makes you a "candidate." Preparation for it takes two to three years. It is broadly comparable to an M.A., but unlike it, not a proper degree nor a termination point of study. After another two or three years comes the *doctoraal* examination. This examination closes your study and gives you the degree of *doctorandus* which is written *drs*. Work for the *drs* degree includes the writing of several papers, and it is indeed comparable to an American Ph.D., although there is less original research necessary for it. The Dutch doctor's degree is a very different thing from the American one. It is not a part of the regular academic study. It calls for the writing of a major thesis based on original research and requiring one or more years of independent work. Those who undertake this are usually already engaged in regular professional activities. The doctor's degree is thus obtained by people of all ages, often late in their professional lives, and it bestows no further practical qualifications. The *drs* is already a fully qualified professional in his field.

Study up to the *candidaats* examination covers a wide field. After that, intensive specialization is as a rule possible. When the candidate is examined, he has to show a very deep and critical understanding of a limited area of his field only, he has to show a very deep and critical understanding of it. The *drs* examination covers a major and several minor subjects.

The academic year in Holland is not divided into semesters: it extends from the end of September to the beginning of July, with Christmas and Easter vacation periods.

#### Study of medicine

Here complications arise because the study of medicine (and similarly of dentistry and veterinary medicine) is set up along lines different from the other schools.

To begin with, in medicine there is a preliminary examination after one year, called the *propaedeutic*, which covers the pre-medical courses in advanced physics, chemistry, biology, etc. Holders of a B.Sc. degree can sometimes be exempted from this examination. After the *propaedeutic* come the usual *candidaats* and *doctoraal* examinations, each requiring at least two years of study, but the medical *drs* is far from finished. He has two or three more years of study and internship, and two exams: the *semi-arts* when he is half-way along this road, and the *arts* examination at the end of his study. (Nothing artistic in this; *arts* is Dutch for physician). The last examination is a state, not a university examination, and makes the successful student a licensed physician in The Netherlands. In similar ways does one become a licensed dentist, veterinarian or pharmacist.

Legislation regarding the licensing of foreign-educated physicians is highly complicated in the various countries of the world. The Dutch training, which takes seven or eight years, is recognized as conforming with the highest standards. Many countries, however, want to protect their native-educated physicians against competition from abroad.

In the United States each state has its own regulations on this score, and the American who plans to study medicine in Holland should check on these with the medical board in his state capital. The Board of Medical Examiners of the State of New York has ruled that the American student must complete the same course as Dutch students (including all co-assistantships), that he has to petition the New York Board of Regents, and complete one year of approved rotary internship in order to become eligible for admission to the New York State Medical Licensing Examination. This would mean that an American *cannot* return to the U.S. for his internships after receiving his *drs* in Holland, for that is not "completion of the course." (A Dutch *drs* has moreover no practical experience, unlike the graduate from an American medical school). The New York Board of Regents has recently re-examined its policy, and the condition that "the same course must be completed as the natives" has been underlined once more.

Until 1960 the American Medical Association kept a list of "approved universities" of other countries, which was used as a guide by state boards. Now, however, the number of graduates of foreign medical schools coming to the U.S. has increased so much that it was no longer felt possible to maintain a recommendation regarding foreign schools. In its stead, an "Educational Council for Foreign Medical Graduates" has been set up which evaluates the medical credentials of graduates of foreign medical schools wishing to practice in the U.S. The ECFMG will test candidates in centers both in the United States and abroad. Its address is: 1710 Orrington Avenue, Evanston, Illinois.



## Amsterdam \*

Amsterdam is the capital of The Netherlands, and its cultural and economic center. Its population is about 900,000. It has many museums, large libraries, theaters, the Concertgebouw Orchestra, and a score of learned societies, and it is the only place in Holland with two universities. Studying in Amsterdam has all the advantages which an intense cultural life offers the student, but there is obviously less of that special atmosphere a university creates in a smaller town.

## The Municipal University of Amsterdam,\*\*

founded 1632, university status 1876, is the largest of Holland with about 7000 students, 2000 of whom are women. In addition to the degrees offered in the five common university schools, this university confers degrees in economics, and in political and social sciences.

**THEOLOGY:** A study of at least 4 years (usually 5—6), leading to a *drs*. Except for Nymegen all Dutch universities teach theology within a Protestant structure.

**LAW:** A minimum 4-year study, leading to a *drs* examination which in the particular field conveys the title of *meester* or lawyer. Since Dutch law forms a large part of the curriculum, this study seems of interest only to students planning to work afterward in Holland.

**MEDICINE:** The general structure of the study of medicine has already been discussed, and its organization at this university corresponds to the pattern. The medical school of the university is a large one with an average enrollment of over 2000 students; there are many eminent specialists on the faculty, and there is a score of university laboratories and clinics all over town. The large number of required courses gives the student a crowded schedule, and a bicycle is a helpful vehicle to keep him going. It is possible to take the physician's examination after 6 years, but 7 or 8 years of study is the rule.

**HUMANITIES:** There are about 75 professors on the staff of the school of humanities, which is officially called the Faculty of Letters and Philosophy. It offers a wide variety of courses and the student has considerable freedom in his choice and combination of subjects. The examination of the *drs* degree can be taken after 5 years and covers one major and two minor subjects.

\* The universities are listed alphabetically according to town, beginning with the municipal university of Amsterdam. The other universities are described less extensively to avoid repetition.

\*\* The name of the university followed by that of the town will always suffice as address in your correspondence.

the field of letters a major can be chosen from one of 15 language groups:

Latin or Greek	an Aryan language or philosophy
Medieval Latin	an Indonesian language, or
Dutch	related Indonesian subject
a Roman language	Chinese
a Germanic language	Japanese
(English, German, Frisian,	Egyptian
or a Scandinavian l.)	Byzantine and New Greek
a Slavic language	comparative Indo-Germanic
a Semitic language	linguistics, general linguistics

Complete mastery of the chosen language, its literature and cultural background is required of the student. The other fields in which degrees may be taken are:

history	sociology
history of art and archeology	ethnology
philosophy	cultural anthropology
psychology	musicology
pedagogy	

**SCIENCES:** The school of mathematics and natural sciences accentuates the academic approach to science. There are many laboratories of modern scope, but the American student will come primarily for the very extensive theoretical instruction. The *drs* degree can be obtained after 5 years, but the average student takes 6 or 7 years. There are ten fields of study in which a degree can be obtained:

mathematics	zoology
astronomy	mineralogy
physics	geology
chemistry	pharmaceutics
botany	philosophy

**ECONOMICS:** 5 years of study lead to a *drs* in the economic sciences. An innovation was the introduction of a three-year course leading to a B.A. in economics, similar to the one offered in Rotterdam. Compare p. 29.

**POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES:** This division was opened after the war and some existing departments were incorporated in it. It is divided into three sections:

- 1) general social and political sciences
- 2) sociology and other social sciences
- 3) social psychology and social pedagogy

After 5 years of study a *drs* is obtained; the fourth year is devoted to field work. Again, choice from a wide variety of major subjects is possible.

In section (1): subjects of a political, legal or historic nature. In section (2): sociology, social geography or ethnology are major subjects. In section (3): one *drs* examination embraces this whole section of study.



## The Free (Christian Reformed) University of Amsterdam

was founded in 1880. Its degrees were recognized by the Dutch government in 1905. The Free University (only "Calvinist" university in the world) now has a faculty of eighty professors and a student body of more than 2,000. About twenty percent of these are women. This university offers the *drs* degree in theology, law, mathematics and natural sciences, the humanities, and economics. The structure of study in these fields is comparable to that at the Municipal University, but there is a narrower range of subjects. The humanities division offers degrees in the classical languages, Dutch, Frisian, English, French, German, Semitic languages, history, philosophy, psychology, pedagogy and linguistics. The university manages a well-known psychiatric clinic, and offers the possibility of post-graduate research in psychology and psychiatry. Its school of medicine offers medical study up to the *candidaat* examination only. In 1955 a new division of political and social sciences was started.

## Groningen

Groningen is the "capital" of the north of The Netherlands; it is a friendly place with about 145,000 inhabitants. Town and country have a strong regional character; Groningen is a provincial town but the Groningers like their university and the students like them. The town is working hard to repair the damage done by the war, but it is still sometimes difficult to find a good room and you should not wait until the last moment to make arrangements.

## The State University of Groningen

was founded in 1614 and has a very solid tradition behind it. In its first hundred years it provided a point of exchange between The Netherlands and Germany, and many foreign students came there. Then, after a period of decline, a new time of growth began in the middle of the nineteenth century. Groningen has the oldest students corps in Holland (it has no *unitas*), and it was at this university that in 1879 the first female student in Holland received her degree. It now has about 3000 students, of whom one fifth are women. About 500 freshmen arrive each year, many from the Northern provinces of Holland, but lately also from places like Lindley, South Africa and Brooklyn, New York. Groningen's experience with foreign students, and especially with its new American students, is a happy one.

Groningen has the usual five university schools (theology, law, medicine, humanities, science), and in addition a school of economics.

**MEDICINE:** the school has a very good name, and a number of clinics are associated with it. Its thorax center now holds a yearly international post-graduate course in thoracic science and surgery. Since 1945 this university has also offered a complete course of study and degree in *dental medicine*.

**HUMANITIES:** a choice of subjects comparable to that of the municipal university of Amsterdam. Groningen was a pioneer in academic instruction in the modern languages.

**SCIENCE:** the school of mathematics and natural sciences offers a degree in mathematics, astronomy, physics, chemistry, zoology, geology, botany, mineralogy, pharmaceuticals and philosophy. There are modern laboratories and a well-known observatory. Former physics professor F. Zernike was the Nobel Prize winner of 1953.

## Leyden

Leyden (in Dutch: Leiden) is a town of 95,000 inhabitants in the west of Holland, ten miles north of The Hague. It is an old and beautiful place, with narrow canals and little stone bridges, but also with, for instance, a highly modern hospital. It is very much of a university town.

## The State University of Leyden

is the oldest in Holland (founded 1574) and some of its classes have been given in the same building continuously since 1581, interrupted only during the last war. Its professors and students were among the first to take a stand against suppression of liberty during the German occupation, and the university was soon closed for the duration. Leyden now has about 5,000 students, one fifth of whom are women. Sixty percent of these students live in rooms in town, thirty percent commute, usually from The Hague. In addition to the "big five" (theology, law, medicine, humanities, science) Leyden confers a *drs* degree in sociology, following a *candidaat* in jurisprudence, and a *drs* in geography or psychology in the Joint School of Humanities and Sciences.

Leyden's medical school has many clinics and laboratories, and an Institute of Tropical Medicine.

Its department of science has an internationally known low-temperature laboratory and a good astronomical observatory.

This university has traditionally been interested in the study of Asia. Its large library has many thousands of Oriental manuscripts, and it also possesses 20,000 maps. It offers a vast fund of knowledge on Islamic and Indonesian languages, Islamic law and religion, Chinese and Japanese, ethnology and archeology.

## Nymegen

This is a very old town, founded by the Romans, and situated in the east of The Netherlands on the Waal River. Charlemagne once built his castle here. Nymegen is a town with beautiful surroundings. It has a population of about 100,000.



## The Roman Catholic University of Nymegen

is the newest university in Holland. Established in 1923 because of the desire in Dutch Catholic circles to create a wholly Catholic academic center, it now offers degrees in theology, law, science and the humanities. In 1951 a school of medicine was set up which prepares students for the examination for physicians. The school of theology is the only one in the country teaching Roman Catholic doctrine. Associated with it is a Missionary Institute which gives training in mission work. The school of humanities offers a wide degree of choice in major subjects.

The Joint School of Humanities and Medicine offers a degree in psychology; the Joint School of Humanities and Law in the social sciences as well as in the social and political sciences.

## Utrecht

This city in the heart of The Netherlands has 250,000 inhabitants. It is a place of learning, with the university and a host of other schools. Much industry and commerce are concentrated here. Twice a year it is the scene of the International Industries Fair. The town is of Roman origin, and has a striking individuality.

## The State University of Utrecht

dates from the year 1636. It now has more than 6000 students, about one fifth of them women. Utrecht has the usual five schools: theology, law, medicine, humanities and science, plus a school of veterinary medicine.

The school of medicine has many institutes and clinics. Related to Utrecht has a school of dentistry, which is the oldest in Holland (the only other being in Groningen). After completion of the *candidaats* and *drs* examinations the passing of a dentist examination makes the student a licensed dentist.

The school of law offers a *drs* in the various fields of Dutch law, and in addition there is the possibility of a *drs* in South African (and English) law or in the "free study of law." A well-known criminology institute is connected with the school.

The school of humanities and the school of mathematics and natural sciences offer a variety of courses comparable to that of Amsterdam. The Joint School of Law and Humanities offers a degree in sociology; the Joint School of Sciences and Humanities offers degrees in physical and in social (human) geography.

**VETERINARY MEDICINE:** this school is well over a hundred years old and has a high academic reputation. This is the only university school of the kind in Holland. There is the usual basic structure of *candidaats* and *drs* final examination one year after the *drs* examination qualifies one as a veterinarian. Most students take 6½ to 7 years to complete the study.



Aerial view of the buildings of the Physics Department, Free University of Amsterdam, erected in the 1930's.



#### IV. OTHER SCHOOLS ON THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL

*TECHNICAL SUBJECTS*, such as engineering, are not included in the curricula of the Dutch universities. They are taught at institutes which have university rank and high academic standing. What distinguishes these is the greater stress on applied science, and the fact that they concentrate on a particular field of study. Two of these institutes give degrees in engineering, one in agricultural engineering, and two others give a degree in economics.

##### Delft

Delft, with 72,000 inhabitants, is a charming old town between The Hague and Rotterdam and only a few miles from each. Delft has many fifteenth and sixteenth-century buildings, but is also a center of modern industry.

##### The Technological Institute of Delft

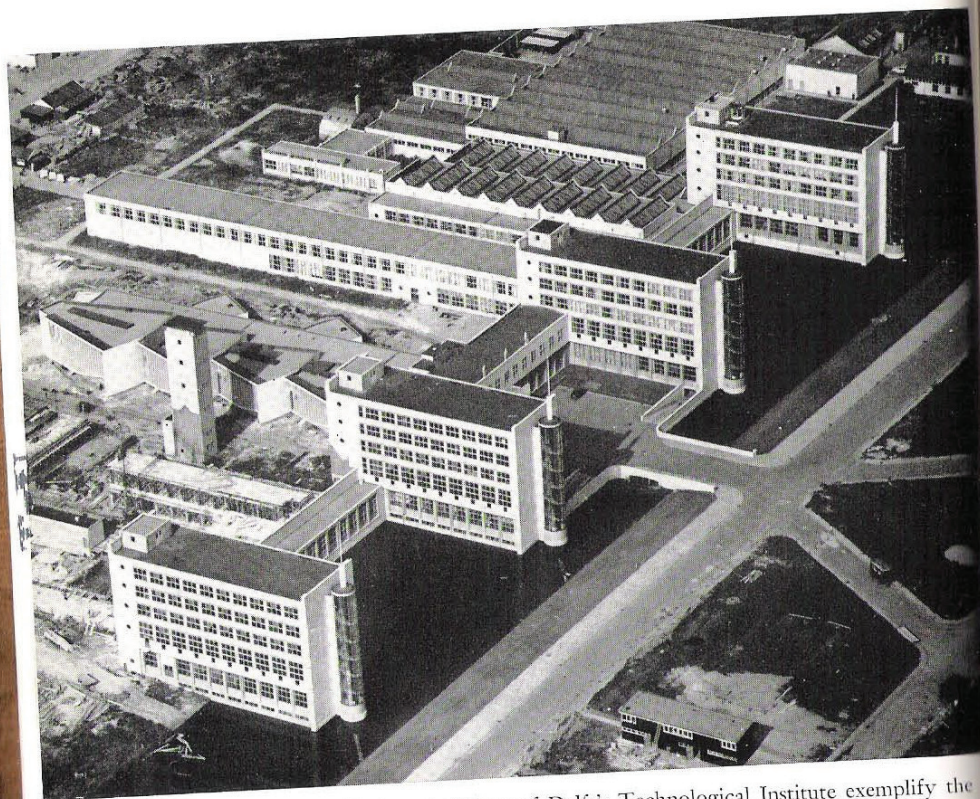
is the center of advanced engineering study in Holland. It is comparable in standards to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the U.S. It is more than a century old and was raised to university level in 1905. Since then its degree of engineer (written *ir* before the name) has been protected by law. The *ir* is of equal academic level with a *drs* in physics, mathematics or chemistry, and is recognized in many countries. The Institute now has more than 6,000 students, slightly more than 1% of whom are women. It is housed in many buildings and laboratories which are spread over a large part of the town. Many Fulbright students from the U.S. have in recent times spent a year of post-graduate study here.

The full course of study at Delft takes 5 years, but many students need longer. There is a *propaedeutic*, a *candidaats* and an engineer's examination. The *propaedeutic* examination (P) and the *candidaats* examination (C) are often each split into two sections, and the student can thus pursue his study with an examination after each year: P1, P2, C1, C2, and the engineer's examination. The *ir* may later obtain a doctorate in the technical sciences.

The curriculum at Delft is closely linked with the modern scientific needs of industry, and practical work outside the Institute is obligatory during the study period. However, it has a very solid basis of theoretical mathematics, physics and chemistry. Delft offers ten different studies and degrees:

civil engineering  
architectural engineering  
mechanical engineering  
naval engineering  
aeronautical engineering

electrical engineering  
chemical engineering  
mining engineering  
physical engineering  
geodetical engineering



Stern and rigid, these buildings of Delft's Technological Institute exemplify the latest trends in architecture.



Delft has a special orientation course for beginning foreign students. The required study of some technical literature in German and French makes the knowledge of these languages (in addition of course to Dutch) important for the English-speaking student.

### Eindhoven

is an industrial town of 165,000 inhabitants in the south of the country; it is the seat of the vast Philips Electronic Works.

### The Technological Institute of Eindhoven

was opened in September, 1957, and offers courses toward degrees in mechanical, electrical, physical, and chemical engineering. One thousand students were enrolled in 1960.

### Wageningen,

a little town of 22,000 people, is situated between wooded hillsides in the east of The Netherlands, a mile from the Rhine River. Here, in 1876, a government agricultural school was founded which was raised to university level in 1918. Both associated and independent institutes and laboratories have since been set up in Wageningen, now the Dutch focal point of agricultural science. Thus, in addition to the Agricultural Institute with its 27 laboratories, Wageningen has official and semi-official institutes for meteorology, soil research, fertilizer research, soil survey, road construction, phyto-pathological research, etc. etc.

### The Agricultural Institute of Wageningen

has about 1,000 students, 10% of whom are women. Study leading to a degree in agricultural engineering takes an average of 5 to 5½ years, including half a year of practical agricultural work. There is a *propaedeutic* and a *candidaats* examination preceding the engineering examination. A wide variety of specialization is possible. Wageningen offers degrees in:

agriculture in temperate regions  
tropical agriculture\*  
horticulture

forestry in temperate regions  
tropical forestry  
home economics

Each of these six degrees can be obtained by specialized work in subdivisions such as dairying, drainage and reclaiming of land, tropical animal husbandry, landscape architecture.

\* Wageningen's know-how in tropical agriculture, dating from Dutch colonial days, led to the establishment of special courses for experts, given in English. See Chapter 3.



Hugo Grotius (1583-1645). The inscription commemorates him as "Pensionary" (Chief municipal magistrate) of the City of Rotterdam, and as Judge Advocate General of the then States of Holland and West Friesland.





The Peace Palace at The Hague, built with funds provided by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. At present, this is the seat of the International Court of Justice, a latter-day tribute to the pioneer work by Hugo Grotius in the field of international law.

Rotterdam,

second city of Holland and the world's second largest port, is in the commercial and industrial heart of the country. It has now 730,000 inhabitants. The center of the city was destroyed by the air bombardment of May 1940, but a new and modern city center has become a reality.

### The Rotterdam Institute of Economics

dates from 1913 and it was here that the first opportunity was provided for the study of economics on the university level. Later the universities of Amsterdam and Groningen added schools of economics to their curricula. The Rotterdam Institute now has about 1,700 students, 3% of whom are women.

The program of study, leading to a *drs* in the economic sciences, puts the accent on the scientific basis of modern economy. Rotterdam has a *propaedeutic* examination after 1 year, *candidaats* examinations after 2 or 3 years and a *drs* examination after 4 or 5 years. It is possible to take one of three directions while working for the *drs*: the managerial, political or sociological. Further orientation is possible in agrarian, industrial or geographical problems, or those of a world area, especially the Far East.

The Rotterdam school was the first institution in Holland to offer a complete, and rounded, academic study of three years. (See the section on "general set-up" in the chapter: The Six Universities.) The *baccalaureate* examination, taken after the *candidaats* examination, confers the degree of *baccalaureus* in the economic sciences. In spite of its misleading name its level is closer to an M.A. than to a B.A. The *drs* examination can be followed by an examination qualifying one as an accountant.

### Tilburg

In the industrial town of Tilburg, in the south of The Netherlands, a

### Roman Catholic Economic Institute

was founded in 1927. It now has about 800 students with 2% women. This institute offers a *drs* degree in economics with specialization in the managerial or sociological direction. In 1945 a separate school of sociology was set up, following a *drs* in sociology.



## V. INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS AND COURSES

The new emphasis on technical assistance to under-developed areas has led to the creation in Holland of a number of courses and schools especially for foreigners, *where instruction is given in English*, and sometimes also in French. These draw on the local fund of technical knowledge which, after the ending of the colonial era in the Dutch East Indies, became available for wider purposes. Others are based on local cultural or scientific sources.

**THE INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL STUDIES**, housed in the former Royal Palace in The Hague, is perhaps the most important of these. The Institute provides a post-graduate course in public administration, with special attention given to problems of sociology, economics and international relations and leading to a Master of Arts degree. Other 1—2 year courses, only for students having an M.A., train in economic planning, social accounting, and the social sciences. In these programs the accent is laid on Asiatic and African problems. There are moreover short courses for experts newly appointed to under-developed areas and for officials who want to acquire some specialized knowledge.

The Institute is residential. Tuition is about 500 guilders per annum, plus 50 guilders a week for room, board and incidentals. It is possible to reside elsewhere on request. A number of full scholarships is available through the Institute itself and through other bodies. The Institute began to function in 1952; its address is 27 Molenstraat, The Hague.

**THE NETHERLANDS UNIVERSITIES FOUNDATION FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION (NUFFIC)**, which took the initiative in creating the Institute of Social Studies, also organizes a yearly Summer Session in English, lasting about two weeks, during which aspects of European culture are discussed and places of interest in The Netherlands visited. The title of a recent session, for instance, was "Trends in modern civilization—vital forces in Western Europe." The address of the Foundation is 27 Molenstraat, The Hague.

**THE FREE (CHRISTIAN REFORMED) UNIVERSITY** in Amsterdam organizes a short summer course to acquaint foreign students with the philosophy of this university in respect to modern scientific and cultural problems. Lectures are given in French, English or German. For information apply to the Secretariat, Summer Course, Free University, 162 Keizersgracht, Amsterdam.

**THE NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE FOR ART HISTORY**, 7 Keizersgracht, Vrijverberg, The Hague, organizes summer schools, in alternate years, in the



Professor J. Th. Thijsse, until 1960 director of the Hydraulics Laboratory of Delft Technological Institute, designed an extensive dike system to close off from the North Sea the areas flooded in 1953. He is seen here demonstrating his scale models.





The Haringvliet, one of four sea arms now being closed off from the sea by means of heavy dams. The cost of the entire project, known as the Delta Plan, is estimated at 600 million dollars.

history of Dutch and Flemish art, especially for foreign art students; the lectures are given in English and French. The institute has an extensive library and card index of documents, photographs and reproductions of Dutch and Flemish pictures, drawings and prints of all periods.

*THE HAGUE ACADEMY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW*, established in the Peace Palace in The Hague, provides a center of advanced studies in international law and related fields. During the summer months eminent jurists teach by invitation in English and in French. An average of 50 students from all countries attend each year. Scholarships are granted by the Academy and by several governments. Applications for Academy Scholarships should be submitted directly to the Secretary and reach him before April 1 of each year. Secretariat: Room 50, Peace Palace, The Hague.

*THE INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL CENTER* in Wageningen (1 General Foulkesweg) organizes a wide variety of summer schools and complete post-graduate courses in agriculture, horticulture and forestry, both tropical and non-tropical. Some of these courses are for students already experts in their fields, others for B.A.'s and holders of United Nations fellowships. There are classes in Wageningen, at the College for Tropical Agriculture in Deventer, and field trips. Several courses are given in English or in French. They started in 1953 with about a hundred students and their success has led to a steady broadening of scope.

*THE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING CENTER FOR AERIAL SURVEY*, 3 Kanaalweg, Delft, was founded jointly by the Technological Institute of Delft and the Agricultural Institute of Wageningen. It provides a place of study and research on aerial cartography and related subjects. There is an extensive program of one and two year courses on photogrammetry, photogeology, use of air photographs for soil survey and forestry, and aerial photography. The Center started its work in 1951.

*INTERNATIONAL COURSE IN HYDRAULIC ENGINEERING.* The Technological Institute of Delft started this course in 1957 for 45 participants, in collaboration with the Netherlands Universities Foundation for International Cooperation (NUFFIC). It consists of a one-year advanced course in hydraulics, given in the English language. For further information and registration, correspondence should be addressed to NUFFIC, 27 Molenstraat, The Hague.



## VI. OTHER SCHOOLS

There are many schools in Holland for technical and vocational training, for the study of art, and for other specialized subjects. Some of these might be of interest to the foreign student and are briefly listed here.

**ARCHITECTURE:** university-level training is available only at the Delft Institute; a number of other schools offer architectural training on a less advanced and more practical level. The Architectural Academy in Amsterdam (*Academie van Bouwkunst*, 67 Waterlooplein) offers a 4-year course of study leading to a degree of architect. Applicants must have a high school education, as well as technical and practical experience.

**FINE ARTS:** the State Academy of Fine Arts (*Rijksacademie van Beeldende Kunsten*, 86 Stadhouderskade) in Amsterdam is the most important institution for higher education in the arts. Courses are given in drawing, "free" painting, monumental and decorative painting, graphic arts and sculpture. The average length of study is 4 years. The Academy has about 110 students, half of them women. Scholarships are available for very gifted students.

The Jan Van Eyck Academy in Maastricht in the south of The Netherlands offers a similar education particularly for Roman Catholics. The Free Academy in The Hague also offers art study.

**APPLIED ARTS:** Gouda in the province of South-Holland has a governmental school for ceramic workers; Schoonhoven in the same province has a school for gold and silversmiths. The glassworks center Leerdam has a school for glass art, to which only students with an education in the fine or industrial arts are admitted. Leyden has a school for precision instrument makers.

**BUSINESS:** a Training Institute for Service Abroad (*N.O.I.B.*) in Breukelen province of Utrecht, provides a 2-year general training for secondary school graduates, with the accent on foreign languages and other subjects required for business representation abroad.

**CARTOGRAPHY:** Delft has a school of aerial photography. See chapter V.

**LAW:** The Hague has an academy of international law. See chapter V.

**MUSIC:** Amsterdam, The Hague, Rotterdam and Utrecht have music conservatories of high academic rank. The period of study averages 4—7 years. Applications must, as a rule, arrive each year before the 15th of May. In June examinations are held to decide on admission. The tuition fee is about 40 guilders a year; a number of scholarships are available which are given on the

basis of a competitive examination among the candidates. Study is possible in many fields, among others:

composition	organ
theory of music	violin
orchestra conducting	oboe
voice (concert and opera)	harpichord
piano	

Examinations are regulated by the government.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION:** academies in Amsterdam and The Hague and schools elsewhere provide 3—4 year college-level courses leading to a certificate as teacher of physical culture. The *Academie voor Lichamelijke Opvoeding* in Amsterdam (100 Nicolaes Maesstraat) offers a 2-year post-graduate course leading to an examination in the "theory of physical education."

**SOCIAL WORK:** the Amsterdam School for Social Work (*School voor Maatschappelijk Werk*, 2 Karthuiserplantsoen) is one of several institutes providing training as a social worker. About 2 years of theoretical and 1 year of practical work lead to the certificate. There is a 1-year post-graduate course for advanced theoretical work.

**TECHNICAL SCIENCES:** agriculture and engineering are taught at various schools on a secondary and intermediate level, and with the accent on practical training. There are specialized schools of mining, textile and other industries. Wageningen has an agricultural study center. See chapter V.

**THEOLOGY:** Holland has many seminaries; the Christian Reformed churches maintain an academy in Kampen, (6 Oudestraat), province of Overijssel.



## VII. ADDRESSES

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- o Counselor for Cultural Affairs, Netherlands Embassy,  
1470 Euclid Street N.W., Washington, D. C.
- o Netherlands Information Service,  
711 Third Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.  
Netherlands Museum, Holland, Mich.  
1004 Mills Building, San Francisco 4, Cal.

For information on travel to and in Holland apply to:

- o Netherlands National Tourist Office,  
1 East 53rd Street, New York 22, N. Y.
- o Netherlands Office for Foreign Student Relations (NBBS),  
29 Broadway, New York 6, N. Y.
- o Holland-America Line,  
29 Broadway, New York 6, N. Y.
- o KLM-Royal Dutch Airlines,  
609 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.
- o or any travel bureau.

### THE NETHERLANDS

For *admission* to the universities:

- o Ministry of Education,  
1 Nieuwe Uitleg, The Hague.

For information on *study or training* in The Netherlands:

- o Foreign Student Service,  
5 Oranje-Nassaulaan, Amsterdam.

For information on *vacation trips*:

- o Netherlands Office for Foreign Student Relations (NBBS),  
6 Rapenburg, Leyden.

### UNIVERSITIES AND STUDENT INFORMATION OFFICES

- o *university office*
- o *student information office*
- o *information office*
- o *telephone*

#### AMSTERDAM, FREE UNIVERSITY

uo - si 164 Keizersgracht, t 62971

#### AMSTERDAM, MUNICIPAL UNIVERSITY

uo 4-6 Oude Mankuispoort, t 246878; si 38 Roetersstraat, t 948600

#### DELFT, TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

uo 134 Julianalaan, t 24950; si 95 Oude Delft, t 25581

#### DELFT, INTERNATIONAL TRAINING CENTER FOR AERIAL SURVEY

io 3 Kanaalweg, t 21980; cable address: Aersur-Delft

#### EINDHOVEN, TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

uo 2 Insulindelaan, t 68000; si 62 Parklaan, t 25012

#### GRONINGEN, STATE UNIVERSITY

uo 5 Broerstraat, t 32643; si 23 Grote Markt, t 32997 & 34922

#### LEYDEN, STATE UNIVERSITY

uo 73 Rapenburg, t 22044; si 6 Rapenburg, t 23905

#### NYMEGEN, ROMAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

uo 13 Wilhelminasingel, t 25141; si 70 Bijleveldsingel, t 25141

#### ROTTERDAM, NETHERLANDS SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

uo 122 Pieter de Hoochweg, t 35000; si 60 Eendrachtsweg, t 27754

#### THE HAGUE, INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL STUDIES, AND NETHERLANDS

#### UNIVERSITIES' FOUNDATION FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

io 27 Molenstraat, t 183462; cable address: Nuffic-The Hague

#### THE HAGUE, ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

uo 341 Bosscheweg, t 30340; si 339 Bosscheweg, t 30340

#### UTRECHT, STATE UNIVERSITY

uo 29 Domplein, t 25351; si 27 Kromme Nieuwe Gracht, t 13886

#### WAGENINGEN, AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE

uo 18 Herenstraat, t 2141; si 7 Duivendaal, t 3420

#### WAGENINGEN, INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STUDY CENTER

io 1 Gen. Foulkesweg, t 3173; cable address: Intas-Wageningen



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